

# Comparisons of Job Characteristics

Focus Occupation: **Physicists (19-2012)**

Associated Occupation: **Astronomers (19-2011)**

[Compare Knowledge](#)

[Compare Skills](#)

[Compare Abilities](#)

[Compare Detailed Work Activities](#)

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<<	Focus occupation element is much lower
<	Focus occupation element is lower
0	Focus occupation element is at a similar level
>	Focus occupation element is at a higher level
>>	Focus occupation element is at a much higher level

## Knowledge

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 96

Focus Occupation: Physicists (19-2012)

Associated Occupation: Astronomers (19-2011)

Associated Occupation's Key Knowledge Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Associated Occupation's Rating	Focus Occupation's Rating		Evaluation of Focus Occupation
Physics	4.3	24.6	23.8	0	Current knowledge level may be sufficient
Mathematics	9.2	23.6	23.7	0	Current knowledge level may be sufficient
Computers and Electronics	8.4	16.9	17.1	0	Current knowledge level may be sufficient
English Language	11.2	16.6	17.9	0	Current knowledge level may be sufficient
Engineering and Technology	5.7	13.6	17.5	>>	Current knowledge level is likely more than sufficient
Chemistry	4.8	10.4	8.3	<	Expanded education and/or training may be required

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O\*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

## Skills

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 91

Focus Occupation: Physicists (19-2012)

Associated Occupation: Astronomers (19-2011)

Associated Occupation's Key Skills Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Associated Occupation's Rating	Focus Occupation's Rating		Evaluation of Focus Occupation
Reading Comprehension	10.7	17.0	19.0	>	Skill level is likely sufficient
Science	4.5	16.7	20.4	>>	Skill level is likely more than sufficient
Active Learning	8.7	15.1	16.4	0	Current skill level may be sufficient
Writing	9.2	14.6	15.0	0	Current skill level may be sufficient
Critical Thinking	10.8	14.1	16.7	>	Skill level is likely sufficient
Mathematics	6.2	13.6	19.5	>>	Skill level is likely more than sufficient

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O\*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Abilities		Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 93			
Focus Occupation: Physicists (19-2012) Associated Occupation: Astronomers (19-2011)					
Associated Occupation's Key Abilities Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Associated Occupation's Rating	Focus Occupation's Rating	Evaluation of Focus Occupation	
Written Comprehension	11.0	17.1	19.2	>	Current ability level is likely sufficient
Written Expression	9.8	16.0	16.4	0	Current ability level may be sufficient
Inductive Reasoning	10.2	15.3	18.3	>	Current ability level is likely sufficient
Deductive Reasoning	10.6	14.8	17.8	>	Current ability level is likely sufficient
Mathematical Reasoning	6.3	14.2	20.7	>>	Current ability level is likely more than sufficient
Flexibility of Closure	7.8	13.9	11.2	<	Some improvement in abilities may be required
Originality	7.6	12.6	17.8	>>	Current ability level is likely more than sufficient
Category Flexibility	9.0	12.5	15.8	>>	Current ability level is likely more than sufficient
Far Vision	7.8	12.4	10.2	<	Some improvement in abilities may be required
Number Facility	6.3	12.2	18.6	>>	Current ability level is likely more than sufficient

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O\*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Activities that Both Occupations Have in Common		Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 98
Focus Occupation: Physicists (19-2012) Associated Occupation: Astronomers (19-2011)		
Work Activities	Exclusivity of Activity	
Adhere to safety procedures	12	
Advise clients or customers	19	
Advise governmental or industrial personnel	28	
Analyze scientific research data or investigative findings	27	
Classify plants, animals, or other natural phenomena	69	
Collect scientific or technical data	30	
Collect statistical data	47	
Communicate technical information	4	
Conduct field research or investigative studies	52	
Conduct nuclear research	89	
Conduct research into the relationship between time or space	99	

Conduct research on astronomical phenomenon	99
Confer with research personnel	50
Confer with scientists	54
Design equipment, apparatus, or instruments for scientific research	87
Develop or maintain databases	30
Develop plans for programs or projects	31
Develop scientific or mathematical hypotheses, theories, or laws	62
Develop tables depicting data	33
Direct and coordinate activities of workers or staff	3
Direct and coordinate scientific research or investigative studies	27
Explain complex mathematical information	30
Forecast or predict phenomena based upon research data	71
Make decisions	24
Make presentations	13
Perform statistical analysis in physical science or geological research	71
Plan scientific research or investigative studies	48
Prepare reports	8
Prepare technical reports or related documentation	22
Present research papers or dissertations on physical science issues	78
Record test results, test procedures, or inspection data	48
Resolve engineering or science problems	46
Use computers to enter, access or retrieve data	3
Use knowledge of investigation techniques	16
Use library or online Internet research techniques	21
Use mathematical or statistical methods to identify or analyze problems	30
Use physical science research techniques	68
Use quantitative research methods	35
Use relational database software	26
Use scientific research methodology	21
Use spreadsheet software	18
Use teaching techniques	29
Use word processing or desktop publishing software	17
Write research or project grant proposals	33
Write scholarly or technical research papers	36

Not all positions in these occupations will necessarily perform all of the listed activities. The exclusivity rating is an indication of how unique the activity is amongst all occupations. The maximum rating is 100. High scores indicate that only a small number of occupations engage in that activity.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O\*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

## Tools and Technologies that Both Occupations Have in Common

Similarity of Focus  
Occupation to Associated  
Occupation: 85

**Focus Occupation: Physicists (19-2012)**  
**Associated Occupation: Astronomers (19-2011)**

Tools and Technologies	Exclusivity
Cameras	2
Computers	1

Content authoring and editing software	1
Crystallography equipment	23
Data management and query software	1
Development software	4
Electrical measuring and testing equipment	7
Indicating and recording instruments	2
Industry specific software	1
Laboratory cooling equipment	25
Laboratory electron and solid state physics equipment	29
Light and wave generating and measuring equipment	4
Miscellaneous optical components	51
Spectroscopic equipment	10
Viewing and observing instruments and accessories	4

Not all positions in these occupations will necessarily use all of the listed tools and technologies. The exclusivity rating is an indication of how unique the tool or technology is amongst all occupations. The maximum rating is 100. High scores indicate that only a small number of occupations use that tool or technology.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O\*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.